

health," which is a fitting tribute for a man that has dedicated his life to the public good.

Gerry is also a loving and devoted husband to his wife of 45 years, Kay, and an outstanding role model for his children, Gerald, Harold, and John, and for his grandchild, Taylor. In fact, I am reminded every day of his efforts in this regard through the work of his son, Harold, a member of my staff for the last 15 years. Gerry has been an active member of his community as well, helping to develop the Northwest Academy, a charter school in Charlevoix County, leading a troop of Boy Scouts, and serving as a Big Brother.

Gerry has set a high standard and has left a lasting footprint which will endure for many years to come. I know my colleagues will join me in congratulating Gerry on his many impressive accomplishments over the last thirty-seven years. I wish him the best as he begins a new chapter in life.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO FRANK SPRINGOB

• Mr. KOHL. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Greenfield Chief of Police Frank Springob for 46 years of service to the community and State of Wisconsin. I am honored to have the opportunity to congratulate my friend and great member of law enforcement, Chief Springob, on his retirement.

From an early age, Frank Springob was destined to become a police officer. Growing up on Milwaukee's south side, Frank spent a lot of time visiting his local police station and officers who became Frank's first mentors. Frank began his career as a police clerk trainee and with an unparalleled commitment to community service, spent the next 29 years working his way up through the ranks of the Greenfield Police Department, until he was appointed Greenfield's chief of police in 1994.

Throughout his career, Frank remained endlessly committed to helping improve the lives of the residents he swore to protect and serve. During his time on the police force, Frank has seen the population of the city more than double. His encyclopedic knowledge of law enforcement and the history of the city helped ensure that the people of Greenfield received a special brand of policing—one focused, above all else, on helping people.

During his time as chief, Frank has overseen the development and construction of the Law Enforcement Center, while maintaining one of the best, most cost effective departments in the State of Wisconsin. Still, Frank's greatest legacy as chief of police will be the team of officers he has helped shape and the incredible work they will continue to do serving the residents of Greenfield.

Chief Frank Springob is an outstanding example of a true public serv-

ant and his dedication to protecting others has set a standard that we can all admire. The city of Greenfield and the State of Wisconsin have benefitted greatly from his service and I am proud to offer these words in recognition of his extraordinary career.●

RECOGNIZING THE SMOKY TOAST CAFE

• Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, while the news these days all too often highlights the negatives in our economy, such as the plight of a high unemployment rate and weak growth, we should also be reminded that some people are making the best of a bad economy and taking a risk by starting new businesses. One couple in downeast Maine has made the incredible transition from operating a boatbuilding shop to starting a new restaurant all in the course of less than a decade. Instead of complaining about the calamitous economic times, they did something to continue their passion of entrepreneurship. That is why today I wish to honor the Smoky Toast Cafe located in Jonesboro, which opened last year to much acclaim.

Tracy Watts and William Faulkingham started their boat-finishing business, Jonesboro Custom Finish Shop, nearly a decade ago. During the booming economy of the early 2000s, business was good and their docks were never dry, with customers constantly bringing in boats for finishing and renovations. The company finished a variety of watercraft, ranging from lobster boats and commercial vessels to canoes and sport fishing boats. With orders coming in on a regular basis, William and Tracy never lacked for work. Regrettably, that all changed when the economic downturn struck late last decade, as thousands of small businesses in Maine and the rest of the country saw demand slack off and the need for their services diminish.

But instead of waiting around for the economic winds to shift, the energetic founders of this boatbuilding business changed course altogether and found a new calling—off the water—in the restaurant industry. Tracy and William built the Smoky Toast Cafe on the same land where Jonesboro Custom Boats had previously operated. Using the skills they had honed over time William's handiness and Tracy's cooking—they started over from scratch. Now more than a year into this new endeavor, the business is off to a strong start. After all, no matter how hard times may be, quality food always sells.

But William and Tracy also know that starting a new business in this climate will take even more hard work. They have built a loyal following among the downeast community of fishermen and harvesters, and open their doors at 5 a.m. to welcome these dedicated individuals with hearty breakfasts and fresh baked muffins and

bread. The Smoky Toast Cafe is also open for lunch, offering standard favorites as well as Maine seafood dishes. The restaurant is also utilizing social media, such as Facebook and Twitter, to promote itself and bring in new customers, by posting daily specials and company news items.

Small businesses like the Smoky Toast Cafe are the main generators of jobs and economic growth in this country and will be the drivers of our recovery. The commitment to entrepreneurship displayed by Tracy and William is a remarkable example to aspiring business owners who are considering whether or not to take the risk in starting their own company. I commend William and Tracy for their tremendous efforts and wish them many successful years of business.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 1:08 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2018. An act to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to preserve the authority of each State to make determinations to the State's water quality standards, and for other purposes.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

H.R. 2018. An act to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to preserve the authority of each State to make determinations relating to the State's water quality standards, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-2475. A communication from the Secretary of the Commission, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Commodity Pool Operators: Relief From Compliance With Certain Disclosure, Reporting and Recordkeeping Requirements for Registered CPOs of Commodity Pools Listed for Trading on a National Securities Exchange; CPO Registration Exemption for Certain Independent Directors or Trustees of These Commodity Pools" ((17 CFR Part 4) (RIN3038-AC46)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 13, 2011; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2476. A communication from the Acting Director, National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Competitive and Noncompetitive Non-Formula Federal Assistance Programs—Administrative Provisions for the Sun Grant Program" (RIN0524-AA64) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 8, 2011; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2477. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting the report of (12) officers